Federal Inspector General Community and President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency



President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency



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Overview

- Offices of Inspector General (OIG)
- President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE)
- Strategic Plan
- Questions



- Establishment of Inspectors General
 - Health and Human Services (HHS) IG established - 1976
 - ▼ IG Act of 1978 established IGs in 12 Federal agencies
 - ▼ IG Act Amendments of 1988 established IGs at designated Federal entities
 - Today there are 57 OIGs providing oversight to 59 agencies



Responsibilities Under the IG Act

- Conduct independent and objective audits, investigations, and inspections
- Prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse
- Promote economy, effectiveness, and efficiency
- Review pending legislation and regulation
- Keep agency head and Congress fully and currently informed



Appointment and Removal

- President appoints IGs at Cabinet Level department and major agencies
- ▼ IGs are appointed without regard to political affiliation
- Appointment based on integrity and ability in:
 - accounting, auditing, financial analysis
 - law, management analysis, public administration
 - investigations



- Appointment and Removal (continued)
 - Senate confirmation required of Presidential appointed IGs
 - Presidential appointed IGs can only be removed by the President
 - Agency heads appoint and remove IGs at designated federal entities and corporations
 - ▼ The Senate and House of Representatives must be notified if an IG is removed





- ▼ IGs are authorized to:
 - have direct access to all records and information of the agency
 - have ready access to the agency head
 - conduct such investigations and issue such reports as appropriate
 - issue subpoenas for information and documents outside the agency
 - administer oaths for testimony
 - hire and control their own staff and contract resources



- Independence and Oversight (continued)
 - OIGs headed by Presidentially appointed IGs must have a separate appropriations account
 - ▼ IGs serve under "general supervision" of the agency head
 - ▼ IGs have dual reporting responsibility to the agency head and to the Congress
 - Allegations of misconduct against an IG are referred to the Integrity Committee



Reporting

- Audit, investigation, and evaluation reports are prepared in accordance with professional standards
- Semiannual reports are issued to Congress
- ▼ 7-day letters are used to report egregious and flagrant problems and abuses to the agency head, and thereafter to the Congress within 7 days





- Unreasonable refusal to provide information to the OIG within the agency is reported to the agency head and Congress
- Suspected violations of federal criminal law are reported to the Attorney General
- Strategic and annual operating plans
 (Government Performance and Results Act)





- Quality Standards for Federal OIGs
- Government Audit Standards (Yellow Book)
- Quality Standards for Investigations
- Quality Standards for Inspections
- Guide for Conducting External Quality
 Control Reviews (audit operations)



Establishment of PCIE

- ▼ The PCIE was established by Executive Order in March 1981
- Membership includes Presidentially appointed Inspectors General, Office of Management and Budget, Office of Government Ethics, Office of Special Counsel, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Office of Personnel Management
- A similar organization exists for nonpresidentially appointed IGs



Mission

- ▼ To coordinate and enhance governmental efforts to promote integrity and efficiency and to detect and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse in federal programs
- Increase the professionalism and effectiveness of IG personnel throughout the federal government



Organization

- Chair from OMB and Vice Chair appointed from member IGs
- Six standing committees and members
 - Audit Committee
 - Inspection and Evaluation Committee
 - Investigations Committee
 - Legislation Committee
 - Professional Development Committee
 - Integrity Committee



- Fiscal Year 1999 Accomplishments (July 2000 Annual Report to the President)
 - ▼ Nearly \$10.5 billion in recommendations for more efficient use of funds
 - ▼ More than \$8.2 billion in potential savings
 - ▼ Over 13,000 criminal prosecutions
 - ▼ Nearly 6,700 barred from doing business
 - ▼ Over 1,200 civil actions



Audit Committee

- ▼ Purpose Take a leadership role in improving audit quality, coordinate government-wide audits, and enhance the audit professionalism
- ▼ Products Reports on inter-agency or cross-cutting reviews, guide for conducting external quality control reviews, and input on financial audit manual





Partners

- Federal Audit Executive Council
- Inspector General Auditor Training Institute
- Government Performance and Results Act Roundtable
- Information Technology Roundtable
- Various working groups



- Inspection and Evaluation Committee
 - Purpose Share best practices and provide training to improve inspection and evaluation techniques
 - Products Interagency reports and quality standards for inspections
 - ▼ Partners Inspection Roundtable



Investigations Committee

- Purpose Address cross-cutting investigative issues and share best practices among its community. Coordinate law enforcement training to ensure professionalism
- Products Quality Standards for Investigations
- ▼ Partners Investigation Advisory Subcommittee, IG Criminal Investigator Academy, and Federal Law Enforcement Training Center



Legislation Committee

- Purpose Keep community abreast of congressional areas of interest, focusing on matters that could impact OIG statutory authority, duties, and organization
- ▼ Products Legislative alerts, Official PCIE positions on proposed legislation and regulations
- Partners Council of Counsels to the Inspector General



- Professional Development Committee
 - ▼ Purpose Provide educational opportunities for members and assist in developing competent personnel
 - Products Educational forums
 - ▼ Partners Federal training organizations



Integrity Committee

- ▼ Purpose Provide an independent mechanism for ensuring that administrative allegations against IGs are appropriately and expeditiously investigated and resolved
- ▼ Products Reports of Investigation submitted to the Chair of the PCIE for action
- ▼ Members Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Special Council, and Office of Government Ethics



- Links to Government-wide Councils
 - Chief Financial Officer Council
 - Chief Information Officer Council
 - Procurement Executive Council



Major Initiatives

- Financial Statements Auditing
- Debt Collection
- ▼ Computer Security
- Fraud Estimating Methodologies
- Law Enforcement Authority
- ▼ Strategic Plan



Purpose

- Articulates a vision for the IG community and its activities over a 5-year period
- Identifies a number of multi-agency projects
- ▼ Provides a framework for how the PCIE/ECIE will fulfill their responsibility and how the IG community sees itself as a whole



Vision Statement

- ▼ To be an effective and influential force in identifying vulnerabilities and facilitating government excellence
- ▼ To lead and promote integrity, accountability and excellence through effective coordination to prevent and detect waste, fraud and abuse





- Independently anticipate and communicate weaknesses and vulnerabilities of the government
- ▼ Facilitate solutions
- Identify opportunities for improved performance





- Shaping good government
- ▼ Taking care of our people
- ▼ Enhancing the integrity, effectiveness and image of the IG community



Goals

- 1. Improve Federal Programs and Operations (Projects)
- 2. Communicate reliable and timely information (Communication)
- 3. Advocate and implement training programs (Human Resources)
- 4. Advance the Effectiveness of the OIG Community (Operations)



Benefits

- Identification of best practices across government agencies
- Increased awareness and understanding of IG's activities
- Improved relationships among IG and others through better communication and sharing of information



Questions?

PCIE Web Site: www.ignet.gov